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The Passing Show.

The Cook Government has commenced business.

One of its first acts was one of high statesmanship. It had itself photographed in Cabinet assembled.

They looked a fine body of men, who seemed to be grappling with the greatest and most complex problems that perplex the rest of us.

The daily Liberal papers published photographs of the first Cabinet meeting, just to show us now a Liberal Ministry can keep awake and attend to the business of the country.

There was not a vicious or brutal-looking man among them. Such men as King O'Malley and Mr. Hughes are only to be found in a Labor Government, and it is a blessing that the daily papers have given us their description so that we may be on our guard against them.

From the portraits of Liberal Ministers anyone could see that they were men of high standard of intelligence, and that they were even at the first meeting deciding on measures of most momentous importance.

But though appearances sort of prepared us to expect something unusually deep and magnificent, we had no presentiment of the great delight that was in store.

Senator Pearce's military "revolution" was a mere event, a commonplace episode, compared with the second act of the Cook Government.

What was it? Why one of the greatest acts of administration in all our wonderful history! They abolished the Labor Party's disloyal penny stamp, the stamp with the disreputable kangaroo in the place where the King's noble head should be.

There was statesmanship for you! There was greatness! If ever Australia should be proud of her great men it is now.

But that is not all! They are going to do more to delight us. They are going to restore King George's beautiful head to the penny stamp. What joy and satisfaction! Even the blackest Laborite should shed ecstatic tears!

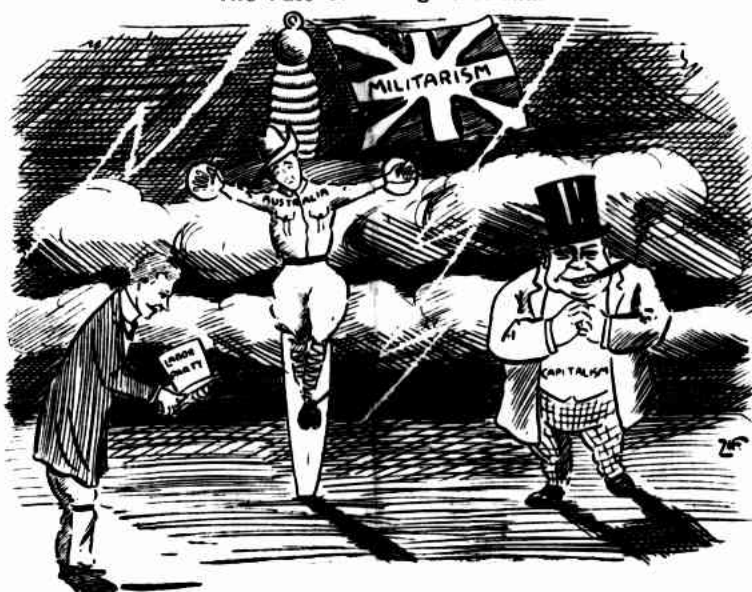
In the same papers which contained the foregoing pleasing news, a cable appeared announcing that King George had a notion of coming over to see us. No doubt he will be dying to see Joe Cook and our other statesmen. The men who could think out the penny stamp matter would be worth coming to see.

Mention of King George brings to mind certain acts in his career which stamp him as the greatest monarch who ever lived. If he comes to see Joe Cook it will be the crowning act of a glorious career, as the loyal papers say.

The great mining disaster at the Cadeby mine brought out the nobility of King George's nature in a brilliant manner. Did he rush to the pit's mouth, like common people did, to ask after the fate of the miners? Not on your life! George flew higher; he asked how the valuable horses were! When the suffragette tripped his racehorse up, and threw the jockey, and was carried off the course, in a dying condition, how did His Gracious Majesty rise to the occasion? He went to the stable at once—to inquire how the jock was? Not much! Miss Davidson? No! no! He wanted to know if his horse was alright! There's a true King! There's a mighty monarch!

The King and Joe Cook have a good deal in common, which is easily explained from the fact that both draw their inspiration from the source of England's greatness—the Bible. Between racing events the King reads the Bible twice a day. On Sundays, when Cook isn't engaged in digging up what Fisher planted, he expounds the holy scriptures and exhorts sinners to abandon their evil courses.

The Fate of Young Australia.



Crucified Between Two Thieves—A Capitalist and a Politician.

The Reverend Joseph addressed a delighted meeting of the Croydon Park Methodist Young Men's Society on June 29, and judging by press reports the young men must have spent a pleasant Sunday afternoon. Christian young men are very fond of lunks, and knowing this Mr. Cook gave them these to chew.

"I know of no specific for social unrest excepting the building up of human character and the development of a higher and better life."

"Better environments can certainly be obtained, but by them it does not follow that you can make a better man."

"The betterment of the masses should be the aim of politicians. What is wanted is permanent improvement and better conditions."

"Legislators should endeavor to get the weeds out of the character, and develop brotherhood, by which means a betterment of conditions would prevail."

The scientist who dabbles in pathology or sociology may assert that vice and drunkenness are amenable to the influence of environment; that better character can only be developed in better environment; that children born and reared in slums have not the same chance as children reared amidst happier and healthier surroundings; that the playground of the gutter and the foetid atmosphere of the overcrowded sleeping room have a deadly effect, and that the maudlin and womanhood developed from such children is warped in mind and stunted in physique; but Cook has no such namby-pamby notions. All he urges is that you should pluck the mote out of your brother's eye and better conditions will prevail.

One way of "getting the weeds out of human character" is to hang the weedsy ones. Most Christian nations have adopted this plan instead of working them out by improving social conditions. Vice and crime are two of the weeds that spring from the seeds of capitalism, and our only remedy is the jail and the gallows.

Charles Henry Spargo was hanged at Fremantle jail on July 1. He had murdered another man, and to even matters up society murdered him. The daily papers tell us he "died bravely," and that just before his death he "gripped the hand of the prison chaplain" and murmured to him "pray for me." Old Testament justice and Old Testament ideas of bravery and religion are still rooted in the minds of the ruling class. Even the reporters speak of the condemned man's "last long journey" as though from life to oblivion was something more than a single step or a few feet of a drop at the end of the hangman's rope. The current belief is that the chaplain was there to give the poor fellow a send-off to heaven, which exists somewhere beyond the solar system, the milky way, and all the stars—many millions of miles away. This belief is fully

6000 years behind the times, yet it suits and bolsters up capitalism, and on that account is carefully preserved. It will die out with the existing economic system.

"The danger of the age," says Lord Selborne, "is the power of wealth in alliance with party machine government." That this is true we can see very clearly in the plight N.S.W. Government is in. It has no money, and is compelled to obey the financiers in order to be allowed to carry on. Most of the legislation of the Fisher Government was prompted by the money power.

In an article in the "Daily Mail" for May 5, Lord W. G. Cecil says that "non-Christian races are treacherous." The noble Lord doesn't know that treachery is common to men of all beliefs. It is a human not a religious weakness. Lord Cecil seems to believe that the great Christian powers of Europe are a happy family with no treacherous feelings or intentions towards each other or other races. The European Powers are treacherously keeping wars going. The British Empire forced the opium trade upon China, wiped out the Boer Republics, enslaved the masses of India, and harboured the Putumayo murderers. Italy is a Christian nation, and how has Italy treated the Arabs and Turks? How have the Balkan States conducted themselves lately?

There is a remarkable slump in the business of converting China and other "brother" lands. The London Missionary Society has a deficit of £29,000, and the Church Missionary Society has a shortage of £28,000.

German papers state that the Kaiser has opened a factory for the manufacture of margarine. He is also a shareholder in Krupp's gunmaking works, and in close touch with the German deity. The margarine is probably for the men who use the guns, while his pious platitudes are to keep them from asking why they use them.

According to an English Tory paper, King George has 25 morning suits, about 20 shooting outfits, besides uniforms and evening dress. The trouble is that he can only wear one suit at a time same as any common person.

"In Australia we are a favored community," says N.S. Wales Premier Holman, "we have no submerged tenth." This is a state of things that politicians are rapidly altering.

Speaking at a Hibernian function on June 28, Mr. Treffe, N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture, said he was glad to say that "he was still good on the books of a benefit society, and wished that all men who had climbed the ladder of success would not forget the means by which they climbed."

"Stick tight to the ladder, an' nivver go to sea. An' ye all may be rulers jist the same as me."

J. S. (Moree) writes: "The result of the elections was not a surprise to me because I saw the result must be a defeat of the Labor Party. I expected it to be much greater because there has been a continued rain of condemnation for three years from the daily papers, and for a long time from the 'International Socialist.' The Labor Party are to blame in many ways. There is no doubt that they have carefully pared off the real Socialist parts of their platform, but even the 'I.S.' must admit they have done good work as well as bad during the past three years. They seem to be working on a policy of diplomacy rather than upon the straight out fight against the common enemy. Perhaps this is a just reward for their labors, still I fail to see the benefit to be derived by the serious way the 'I.S.' has played into the hands of the Liberals. I say this seriously, because, seeing that the Socialists are not strong enough to (for instance) send a candidate to contest the Sydney electorate, the Socialists were asked by the 'I.S.' to withhold their votes from the Labor candidates."

What I want to know is how Socialism is going to benefit by putting the common enemy back into power? Why not go slow and do all that is possible to add sufficient Socialist members to the Labor Party from time to time to spread the doctrine of Socialism with a steady and sure hand?

I fully approve of the attitude of the 'I.S.' with regard to conscription. I am fully convinced that the Coercion Act requires altering or amending, or if we could have universal peace, wipe out militarism altogether. I would also wipe out the Arbitration Act, but what chance have we of doing either with Liberals in power?"

J. S. writes much more in the same strain, but space is limited, and the above is enough to go on with. Our correspondent labors under the impression that the Labor Party was in some way different from the Liberal Party, though he admits that it "pared off the real Socialist parts" of its platform. It not only abandoned its Socialist ideals and objective, but it adopted the worst of its opponents' principles. Conscription, compulsory arbitration, and toe-licking loyalty, were adopted simply to sugar Liberal voters so that the party might p in power. The party was doing the dirty work of the Liberals, and its followers, chloroformed by the name "Labor Party," were being sold out to the enemy. Let the Liberals do their own work, and we shall soon see the Labor Party criticising them and helping us to educate the workers in the true nature of Liberal capitalist principles.

Our correspondent wants to know how Socialism will gain by putting the common enemy back into power. Well, Socialism will gain by its advocates going straight for their own objective regardless of the interests of any party that bars their way. To stand in with the Labor Party and go slow, and cover up its treachery, would have been more popular with some people, but it wouldn't have been honest, and it would have disgraced Socialism in the long run.

We went straight for the truth as we saw it, and so far events have justified us. In the future no one can say that this paper did not protest against conscription, the persecution of conscripts under that system, and the persecution of the workers under compulsory arbitration.

Judging by the trend of events, it will not be long ere the intelligent among the workers are compelled to admit that we were right. Economic forces are now working on the minds of the workers which before long will make them leave the so-called Labor Party a long way behind. That party will never again achieve power on its present principles. It will have to adopt once more the old objective of Socialism, and when it does some of its present leaders will fly to the Liberal camp. The militants only will follow us—if some distance behind.

According to Dr. Clifford, the Nonconformist Churches of England were never richer than they are at present. This may be due to the decay of Capitalism. The capitalists are spending a good deal in various ways to keep the system going, and the Church being one of its principal supports is receiving careful attention.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Contributors writing for publication should write in ink, on one side of the paper only, and with a fair space at the sides and between the words and lines. Leave plenty of room for editing.

Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us lined for over-weight.

Mark the package "Press Matter Only," and address it "To the Editor."

Write briefly and clearly, as long and undecipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

Do not send business communications to the Editor, or literary matter to the Manager. To do so only causes confusion and delay.

If your article is not published, do not conclude that it is because it is of no merit, for it may be simply owing to the fact that it is not in accordance with the above rules. Where possible, articles of importance should be types-written.

In England Socialist opinions are expressions of discontent at existing and indefensible practices, not an organisation directed against the very foundations of economic progress.—Thorold Rogers.

From Our Viewpoint.

The Slums.

The Lord Mayor of Sydney recently presided at a City Mission function, at which a report was read which showed that during the year 2106 poor families had been relieved, and 708 sick persons visited. Together with fuel and provisions, 6000 loaves of bread were distributed. Commenting on the unhappy conditions which the report disclosed, the Lord Mayor said "that slums were not created by the building in which the people lived, but by the habits of the people who lived in them. The regeneration of the people was the paramount work in doing away with the slums." Someone should send his lordship a Socialist pamphlet explaining the influence of pamphlet, or induce him to try the regenerating process in some of the sunless warrens of the underworld of Sydney. He would be a sadder but a wiser man.

Vested Interests.

The visit of the French President to England has caused the "S.M. Herald" to open its heart, and give the show away as it affects vested interests. Interests are always a first consideration with our reverend contemporary, whether they are British or foreign doesn't count. On June 27, the "Herald" leader opened by saying:—

"One of the principal subjects of conference between the French President and the British Minister of foreign affairs, is sure to be the condition of things in the Balkans. France, as a recent writer points out, has lent more than a thousand million francs to Bulgaria, Roumania, and Serbia; and her interests are certainly in danger if war should continue."

The financiers of France seem to have been lending the allies vast sums to fight Turkey, but now that they are fighting each other, their interests are in danger, and the French President, as their principal guardian, has to rush over the water to confer with the representative of British interests to decide what is to be done. The cheering crowds in London, who welcomed M. Poincare, had little idea what the "friendly" visit was about. They thought that the President had just come over to shake hands with the British workmen, whereas, he had come to decide how best the Balkan workers could be made to serve the international capitalists. The "friendly" call of the wolf on Little Red-Riding Hood's grandmother, was no more ominous than M. Poincare's visit.

A Royal Luncheon.

A Manchester bookworm recently unearthed an old record of a Kentish luncheon enjoyed by Henry V. The book says:—

"The cheapest luncheon for Royalty that

was ever known, took place at Settingbourne (Kent) on the high road from Rochester to Canterbury, where Henry V., with his retinue, returned from France in 1421. They put up at the "Red Lion" of that town, the landlord of which was one Norwood. Wine then was but two pence a quart, and everything was cheap in proportion. The whole cost of the King's luncheon and his retinue, with a musical entertainment during the repast, was but 9s. 9d. The King was on his journey home from the famous battle of Agincourt."

Whether or not the old record is correct, it is certain that a luncheon for King George, and his retinue, would cost considerably more than did that of Henry in 1421. But let that pass. Here is a Kentish farm laborer's budget of the present day, published in a recent number of the "Kentish Express":—

"One who works amongst the poor writes:— 'Seeing in the 'Kentish Express' what the Rector of Bichpeshbourne says about the countryman's cost of living, I enclose a statement, if you think fit to publish it. You will see it does not work out much over a penny a meal for three meals a day. Extra money earned in harvesting and hop-picking is needed for clothes, the upkeep of home, etc."

"How a poor man with four children spends his money:

Four gallons of bread	4 0
1½ lbs. of butter (1½)	1 3
Two lbs. cheese (6d.)	1 0
Flour 5d., suet 4d.	0 9
Bacon and meat	1 6
Tea and sugar	1 4
Coal, wood, paraffin	1 6
Soap, soda, blacking, pepper	0 7
Milk	0 6
Mending, shoes, etc.	1 0
Rent	2 6
	15 11

This budget goes far to explain why farm laborers are becoming scarce in England, and also why they are so popular with Australian estate agents, cockies, and immigration agents.

The Average Man.

Several well-meaning friends urge us to try and interest the average man. The idea seemed a good one until we sat down to consider what the average Australian likes, then the list looked like this:

1. Money; 2. Joe Cook; 3. Women's dress; 4. Boxers' doings; 5. Horseraces; 6. Church doings; 7. Football; 8. The turkey trot; 9. Suffragettes; 10. The Governor-General's welfare; 11. War and Foreign Missions; 12. Pawnbroking; 13. Betting quotations; 14. The Salvation Army and collections; 15. Murders and military doings.

The daily papers seem to supply information on these topics better than we could, so we leave that job to them. In the meantime there is a more serious business to be written about, and that is, the way in which the majority—the workers—get their living. We have noticed that whenever the workers form a union and endeavor to get more of what they earn, or attempt to better their conditions by shortening the hours of labor or in any other way, the journals which supply information regarding the above topics are up in arms against them. "Let that subject alone," they howl. "Get back to work before your grievances can be considered." So it comes to us that it will be more serviceable to keep to this subject, which the yellow journals seem so anxious that the workers should not consider. The conditions that surround us spring from our method of producing the means of life, and if the average Australian wastes his time over things that don't matter it is because the insane industrial system in vogue finds its reflex in his mind. When we change our industrial methods, to co-operation, class wars and many other inanities will cease to be discussed. A change will come over the minds of men, and they will see in harmony and mutual aid what they see now in war and disunion. At present we appeal to the intelligent rather than to the average man.

Public Sanity.

Liberal newspapers tell us that during the recent elections many otherwise reasonable men and women travelled long distances to vote for Liberalism and Cook, and broadly stated that such enthusiasm in the cause denoted a returning sanity in the electorate. It would be as useful to whistle to a milepost as to attempt to reason with the holders of this view, but for others it will serve to point to the fact that to get a glimpse of a fight or a football match thousands of nature's most reasonable beings will cheerfully endure hours of uncomfortable travelling by rail, boat and tram. The loss of sleep, the hustling of unruly crowds, and the cost in money never enter the minds of such people. Their only object in life is to see Sam Langford "right cross" or "out" to Sam McVea, or see Australia run away with the ball from the New Zealanders. They are too busy for the consideration of such commonplace things as the assertion of their claim to life, liberty, and a fair share of the good things of the earth. The plutocrats incite them to hoar-ray at a fight, a football match, or a sight of Joe Cook, for while they are hoaraying at such things they are neglecting others which certain people desire should remain in abeyance.

Liebkecht's Exposure.

Liebkecht's well-timed exposure of the German warmongers furnishes an answer to German armaments. Liebkecht might have said a hundred times more than he did without attracting attention had he not said it from his place in Parliament. What Liebkecht succeeded in making the world see is that the warlords, the manufacturers of warlike ironmongery, have used bribery, corruption, and espionage to obtain knowledge of Government secret plans and secure contracts. That in order to incite the German people to demand increased armaments the scaremongers caused articles announcing increase of French armaments and preparations for war to appear in French papers, and that the Dillington Steel Works are operated largely with French capital. Liebkecht has shown what humbug German patriotism is, and though he may not succeed in arresting the growth of armaments he will make a difference.

The New Coercion Act.

Mr. D. R. Hall, acting Attorney-General of N.S.W., has stated that "he has been asked to reduce some of the fines imposed on unionists for striking. He referred the matter to Mr. Justice Heydon, who held that 'the facts disclosed made the offences appear to justify heavier penalties.' There had been no attempt to garnish the wages of the men who were fined. The 600 and odd men who were concerned in the railway strike have agreed to a deduction from their wages of £1 9/8 per man in order to liquidate the whole amount of the fines and costs imposed on those who were prosecuted. The arrangement is that the amount shall be paid in two instalments. Referring to the general question of penalising strikes, Mr. Hall said it was the duty of the Government to vindicate the law, but it was no part of the Administration to be vindictive. All the Government could do was to see that the law was upheld. The nature of the Minister's reply seems to indicate that some interested parties are urging the Government to give the workers the full benefit of Beeby's Coercion Act."

More Subs Wanted.

Now is the time to get after subs. There is at the present time, within the reach of every reader, some reader of the "International" waiting to be asked to become a subscriber.

Look about you and you will easily locate the person.

You will hear him commenting adversely upon the lies told by the press, the priests, or the politicians, and by these signs you may know that his proper place is upon our list of subscribers.

Don't you remember how you yourself were enrolled by someone who put a paper or pamphlet into your hands which opened your eyes and led you to subscribe?

Thousands of Socialists are being made annually by others whose hearts throb with militant enthusiasm, and scores are waiting to be asked by you who owe the fact of your enlightenment to the interest some one took in you, and who got you to subscribe to the "International."

A single copy of the "International" often has a wonderful effect in starting a train of results when it is dropped into the hands of some person who is just waiting to be started thinking, and who instantaneously feels a new interest in life and becomes a powerful Socialist propagandist.

Get such a man to subscribe. He needs the "International," and the Socialist movement needs him.

Begin each day by making up your mind to tackle some likely person who is only waiting to be asked to subscribe.

A few are working hard to extend the influence of the "International," and if the many would only imitate them, we would have our circulation doubled in a month.

Come, comrade, it is up to you to send us an extra sub.

"In like manner will success prove an excellent substitute for a better argument. To this very day many well educated men think the triumph of Christianity over Greek philosophy is a proof of the superior truth of the former—although in this case it is simply the coarser and more powerful that triumphed over the more delicate and intellectual."—Nietzsche.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend

Some Amusing Views.

By Unconscious Humorists.

At the recent Dairyman's Conference Mr. Thomas Armstrong said: "Strikes are the greatest curse Australia has ever seen: worse even than droughts and rabbits."

Mr. Weir (Kiama) "deplored the untold misery caused by strikes. There was one man in Sydney—Mr. Wade—who might be willing to show them the way out of the difficulty."

Mr. J. Banner (Bilenudgel): "We are getting more in the mire every day."

Mr. W. Bailey (Singleton): "Every dairy farmer knows how to act. If a man strikes, clear him off the place."

Mr. J. Gould (Ballina): "The prisons are not large enough. The authorities cannot put a barbed wire fence round them, and call it a prison. The law should be more stringent, and the fines should come out of the funds of the union."

Various speakers: "How hopeless it is when strikers declare produce 'black,' and no carriers, labourers, or drivers will touch it. In the last railway strike scores of cattle would have died from lack of fodder only the rain came. The strike has an octopus grip, touching every fibre and every point of industry. At Darling Harbour the spin of the coin decided the strike."

"I think," said Sir George Reid, Australia's High Commissioner, surveying through his eyeglass the table at which the Agents-General were sitting, "that when you consider what a rum lot we are, it is astonishing how well we get on."

His Honor Judge Heydon, said that "As soon as a man is put on a bonus rate, he worked five times as fast as when he was on weekly wages. If that fact were made public it would excite absolute amazement. It amazes me beyond expression. I cannot find words to express my astonishment at a system under which a man works day after day one-fifth as fast as he can work, or does work when he is put under the bonus system."

At the recent Workers' Political League Conference at Latrobe, Tasmania, an amalgamation of the political and industrial organisations of Tasmania under the name of "The Tasmanian Labor Party" was proposed and rejected as being too revolutionary a proposal. An amendment was carried in favor of more "complete affiliation of the industrial movement with the Central Executive." It was also moved "That the objective of the Labor Party be the socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange," but this was negatived. A resolution to add land nationalisation to the platform was also defeated. State flour mills and bakeries were relegated to next conference, while irrigation and land reclamation for closer settlement were included in the platform. State forestry and the conservation of timber and the putting of it to its best use, "such as for wood pulp and paper distilling purposes, and also for afforestation" were carried. The Tasmanian Labor Party must have stolen Wade's N.S.W. Liberal platform.

DEATH OF WM. GEO. KING.

We are extremely sorry to have to chronicle the death of the above comrade, who was a valued and able contributor to our paper, and a staunch supporter and champion of the party. His mate, Michael Riley, writes our Melbourne representative, Comrade J. R. Wilson, the following pathetic letter, which explains at once the kind of man W. G. King was and also the kind of man he called his mate. We join his mate and relatives in sorrowing for the loss of a true man:—

J. R. Wilson,
17 Victoria Street,
Melbourne.

Dear Sir, —

I am exceedingly sorry to have to chronicle the sad news of the death of my mate, Wm. Geo. King, a staunch supporter and champion of your party, which occurred at 190 Farraday street, Carlton, Melbourne, on Tuesday, 17th June. Bill King was suffering from an aneurism of the heart for some considerable time, and wasn't too well when he left Melbourne, and on arrival here, worked for a month or so, and was compelled to go to the hospital, where he lay on his back dying. We got a few pounds for him here to enable him to go home to his people's place. I accompanied him as far as Adelaide, where we were met by his father, who took him to Melbourne, and on my return here I received a wire from his father saying he was dead.

If Bill was behind in his union fees or paper contributions I would be thankful if you would advise me to that effect, and I would be pleased to remit same. I am writing you as a last request from Wm. Geo. King, on my parting from him at Adelaide, that if the worst should happen I would let you know. Trusting I have not encroached too much on your valuable time.

I have the honour to be, yours fraternally,
MICHAEL RILEY.
Exchange Hotel,
Port Augusta, S.A.

20/6/13.

The I.W.W. in America.

An Open Letter to Haywood.

By Wm. E. Trautmann.

(From the Daily People, May 24, 1913.)

(By "Industrial Workers of the World," referred to in the Open Letter to William D. Haywood by Wm. E. Trautmann, the Chicago I.W.W., not the Detroit I.W.W., can be meant.—Ed. Daily People.)

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 19, 1913.

Mr. Daniel De Leon,

Editor Daily and Weekly People,

New York City, N.Y.

Greetings:

Would you be so kind as to release the enclosed writup in your valuable paper this week, Friday or Saturday? Copies have been mailed to several papers, upon request, and since The People has always been advocating revolutionary industrial unionism, despite the differences on tactics and on occurrences within the organizations destined to champion industrial unionism, I believe that you will not object having this open letter to Haywood given space.

If it is not asking too much I would also ask you to announce that the undersigned has not joined either Socialist party or Socialist Labor Party, as announced in one publication, in a recent issue, although I am and will be an advocate of political action of the working class, such political action though to be the reflexion and the exercise of the economic demands of the proletariat, and so expressed in and through an Industrial Revolutionary Union.

Thanking you for the grant of favors asked for, I remain,

Yours for industrial freedom,

Wm. E. Trautmann.

437—3rd avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

To William D. Haywood:—

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts has nolle-prossed the indictments, for conspiracy on eighteen (18) counts, against you and others. The Supreme Court of Massachusetts, through the master in chancery appointed, has given out a finding on the Lawrence strike funds. Both these cases hung like a cloud over the heads of the few who know, and knew all the inside facts. The cloud is removed. Further silence would be construed as a crime against the proletarian movement.

You know I promised disclosures as early as in July last year. That time I wanted to risk my own liberty and go to jail. But others had to be considered. Silence became a supreme duty. No more so to-day. Silence would be a felony, on my part, and, I say it emphatically, on your part also.

The Industrial Workers of the World has lost the confidence of the wage earners, no longer can it be trusted as being sincere with the proletariat. You know it, and you struggled hard to make the organization redeem itself. It seems to be impossible.

Attacks on all those who disagree; insults and vilification against all who believe in working class political action through working class parties; the sneer at and jeer of ideals and ethics as strong motive forces in the struggle for working class emancipation; by an element which Karl Marx and also Engels branded as the "scavengers" on the battle field of labor, form to-day the whole Destructive propaganda of the Industrial Workers of the World.

You are aware of these facts. You complained about them. You promised and tried hard to use your influence for remedial enactments. Has anything been accomplished? No, decidedly no! Now, some will aver, you are an unconscious instrument in the hands of an inner circle, which unscrupulously is preparing for more Harry Orchard and McManigal frame-ups against those who are hated and therefore to be doomed by the oppressors of labor and their tools. There was a time when the workers, pitched in battle with their adversaries, enthusiastically cheered the great principles that gave birth to the Industrial Workers of the World. But can anyone wonder that they are now turning away in disgust and amazement? Don't they see that all the declarations that within the I.W.W. the workers are being trained for self-government of their jobs and their life-affairs are sheer mockeries and frauds!

Consideration for others, forcing silence on my part, no longer exists. In the Massachusetts Supreme Court your name, and also mine, are connected together in an evident desire on the part of our enemies to implicate the Industrial Workers of the World in financial wrongdoing. But on the Lawrence strike fund you and I, and all others, can claim a clean bill. And why so? In Lawrence, in Lowell, and I presume also now in Paterson, the workers, through their own committees and institutions, administered all affairs. They courted not nor countenanced outside interference. They supervised the funds, ordered and examined all expenditures. The actions, the speeches, the educational work done by the servants of the workers, and you were one of them, was subject to control by the workers and their committees. There were no volunteers, no scavenger-organizers with their pestilent air. They appeared only after the smoke of battle had cleared away, like in the Paris Commune, in the slaughter of the revolution in the Moscow

uprising, the premature revolution of the Balkan provinces.

But this democratic management of affairs which marked the Lawrence and the Lowell strikes, as historic landmarks in the labor movement, was destroyed immediately after the termination of these conflicts. You are aware of the autocratic orders by which, in defiance of the expressed will of the rank and file in Lawrence, the supervising committee over the financial transaction was dissolved. "It's bad business," was your only comment. And this high-handed act engineered by the all-powerful General Secretary-Treasurer of the Industrial Workers of the World is responsible that now it is charged, in the findings of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, that thousands of dollars have been misused. Who can contradict that statement? All loud clamors by Ebert and others to the contrary notwithstanding, it is true that books have been tampered with. The textile-worker employed in the office who called first attention to this fraud, could not be swayed to remain an abettor of the felonious acts. Her penalty is now abuse, and vilification, by the "gang" in power, but the ravings of the scavengers only prove that they will resort to the most despicable means, if need be to assassination, to silence the voice of those who still believe that the "revolutionary industrial union movement" should no longer be allowed to be the stamping ground for adventurers and reactionists, in disguise, running amuck as rabid revolutionists.

The labor movement of America has passed, in the last seven years, through three important developments. In all of these the employing class tried to pit against the working class its resources, its wits, its political and economic agencies. The workers had nothing but their economic and meagre financial solidarity to combat the evil designs of their oppressors with. Working class ethics and principles, visions that the men on the firing line were but expressions of a great economic unrest, was one of the strong, powerful forces that finally carried the day for the proletariat. You as one were acquitted of the charge of a foul crime.

The Orchards and McParlands had sworn you would not leave Idaho alive. Both had worked on the inside, one in the Molly Maguires, the other within the Western Federation of Miners. McManigal and his partner James McNamara were working on the inside, aided and abetted by an inner circle, as brought out in the Indianapolis trial. The American Federation of Labor had its hired gangmen everywhere to slaughter and to maim all who stood in their way.

But the working class turned in disgust from the gang of assassins, and they spurned the idea that the progress and success of the movement depended on the sly conspiracies of inner circles.

The proletariat vindicated itself as the great supreme force in determining the affairs and their own destinies by again rushing to the rescue of Etor, Giovannitti and Caruso when they found that it was the employing class that had conspired in a clumsily executed attempt to lay the blame for terroristic acts on the toiling, struggling masses.

The toiling and struggling mass presented to the world the object lessons of sound, honest and, above all, clean, unpolluted reasoning. They have decreed; they have spoken; they, the workers. No more Orchards! No more McManigals! No more McNamaras! No more Johannsons or Tretnoves! No more Greens, or Joys, or Donnellys, as in the Etor-Giovannitti trial! Inner circles have to go. Tools of them have to be exposed so that the American labor movement be vindicated against the charge that some few self-selected try to overthrow the capitalist system behind the backs of the oppressors, and think they can get off with the glories as great heroes and redeemers of the race.

You as one ought to have profited from the experience in your own career.

We are again heading towards another crisis in the labor movement. You know it! You commented again, "bad business."

But saying is not undoing. You are in possession of a letter of December, 1912. This letter conveys the information from the General Secretary of the I.W.W. that complaint should not be made that a certain person is serving in detective agencies; that he was doing so with the approval of the general officers of the Industrial Workers of the World. You promised, when getting that letter from the writer of this, to proceed immediately to stop such "bad business." Was it done? No, decidedly no!

Who knows how many are in this bad business at the instigation of the general officers of the Industrial Workers of the World? Who knows whenever the volunteers are dispatched to places where the proletarians are engaged in battle who are there with obscure intents? Who knows what they are liable to pull off so that the capitalists have the welcome excuse to put away and annihilate all whom they hate as constructive industrial Socialists? Can anyone trust his fate to such conglomerations, of volunteer-destructionists, of whom no one knows what they represent, what they are on the scene of battle for? What should the men and women think who are fighting in front of the firing line, when they must be afraid all the time that the volunteers are merely "agents provocateurs" bent upon inciting trouble for others. You know of it, enough of it at least. And some day, if this practice is continued, the world will with amazement awaken to the fact that Axel incidents in the revolutionary move-

ment of Russia, and the Mellivier "agent provocateur" stunts within the "Confederation du Travail" of France which caused the slaughter of nine workers in Ville de Neuve, will find their shocking counterpart in the movement now headed towards such calamities under the all-omnipotent direction of the one man at the head of the Industrial Workers of the World.

If you refuse to raise your voice in protest against this "bad business" as you yourself branded it, you will be held responsible in equal share with all the others, for the dire consequences that the student of contemporary occurrences can easily foresee.

There is system in this bad business. There is deliberate design in giving one kind of measure to prominent leaders, and a different treatment to the common herd.

Prominent leaders when arrested are given all the legal assistance. Press and public are used to champion their cause. There can be no objection, but it disproves the theory that the "breaking-into jail" to undo objectionable interference in the rights of workers is, after all, the evaporation of diseased brains. Yes, if all would break in, if all would be willing to share in the sacrifice—perhaps the argument that the taxpayers would have to go bankrupt would hold water. But preferable to that would be the prison-ruled life under State Socialism, to be sure.

But what of the workers not so prominent? In Rhodesdale, O., imprisoned mine workers, members of the I.W.W., have appealed in vain to the fountain heads of the I.W.W. for support of their cases. Much-abused lawyers, members of the Socialist party, had to be appealed to to take up the cases of these men, one of whom was to be sent for years into the grave behind prison bars on trumped-up charges.

In Akron, O., a score of workers, all foreign born with two exceptions, were thrust into the dungeons, on the promise that their cases would be taken care of, and that the jails would be filled to break the conspiracy of the rubber kings to railroad workers into the penitentiary. But the jails were not filled. The lawyers engaged to appeal the cases of the imprisoned workers were dismissed, on the pretext that the Industrial Workers of the World does not believe in hiring lawyers. The great general Jack Whyte of Chicago was to be the defier of the authorities in the court room. But of the total of 42 arrested there are still seven members of the South Slavish Federation (Socialists) confined to the workhouse, three Serbian members of the Socialist Labour Party, and a number of others whose names the writer of this could not get. Was this deliberately done? I should say, say it emphatically, yes!

Does that look as if the injury to one is the injury to all? What a farce!

"Break into the jails! The more heads are cracked, the more lives are lost in the skirmish, so much more publicity, so much more money for the strike will come in!" This is what one of the chief volunteers of the I.W.W. declared in presence of witnesses, all strikers, all members of the contribution committee of the Akron strike.

W. D. Haywood, do you think that anyone has a right to play "Va Banque" with the lives and well-being of working men?

There in Akron, in the climax to all malfeasance, we hear General Organizer Speed tell the strikers, on February 15th, to respond to the call of County Sheriff Ferguson to enlist as special deputies. Fifty and even more follow the advice. In the great melee in the second week of March these I.W.W. deputies cracked more heads of the foreigners than on picket duty than the regular police who from the start had displayed more sympathy with the strikers than they were given credit for.

That is "political action" on revolutionary lines, as revolutionary as the filling of jails with unfortunates without legal defence. But what's the use?

Then there are the "volunteers" with their sneers for all those who voluntarily dig up the support of strikers. Such easy marks—they all are. The selling for the strike fund, as a pretext, thousands of booklets and song-books to the credulous, harvesting from February 12th to February 22nd any amounts of money, for the revolution! Sympathetic people pay them 25 cents, even dollars, and it pays to follow the call for volunteers. One of them, who has never worked for three years, Swasey, got off to England; what others harvested will ever be unknown. But that is industrial unionism—of course the fountain heads of the Industrial Workers of the World dispatched these volunteers there and they had a right to work the suckers.

There was no such thing as control of affairs by the strikers. There is no such intent to develop the qualities, the possibilities of the workers in the factories and in the mills, as it was tried in Lowell, in Lawrence, in McKees Rocks and other places, and frustrated whenever the inner circle so decreed. Akron furnishes the most awkward illustration of what the I.W.W. of the "scavenger" conception really is. They were given halls by the Socialist party; by the Socialist Labor Party first. The volunteers made places of pestilence and filth out of them. They slept, they "mooched," they occupied these halls, uncontrolled and unrestricted in their foul talk and perverted language; they stole clothing from the strikers, they raved and rambled, under the name of industrial unionism when supplications were made they should respect the rights of others. Driven out of the halls

where they made their sleeping quarters, they clogged the sewer pipes, turned on the water, moved the floors, broke the furniture, and hung up the red jag over their scavenger district of vandalism with an inscription "Sabotage the landlords if they refuse you halls and rooms."

Haywood, you know of this. You arrived in Akron the same day when that happened, but, of course, it was only "bad business." Karl Marx once wrote to Dr. Kugelmann: "The most despicable is the miserable slave who brags of his chains." Over the devastated fields of battle of a confiding proletariat resounds as the note-word of the scavengers, so that they can brand their trade of prey: "Hallelujah, I'm a bum; give me a handout to revive me again." Verily Karl Marx was right. "The most despicable is the miserable slave who brags of his chains."

Of course, you will say that a convention of the I.W.W. might remedy things. Convention? Even Samuel Gompers in the Rochester convention of the A.F. of L. knew that there is no such thing.

A machine rules with absolute power. The disproportionate representation at the American Federation of Labor convention is blamed as the main source of evil doings. But the highest number of votes that a group of delegates could ever control in such convention was at New Orleans in 1903, when the six delegates of the United Mine Workers controlled one-third of the voting power of the convention. And that was criticized, and remedial legislation was demanded and enacted.

But at the last convention of the I.W.W. two delegates, one of them a paid officer, admitted as delegate contrary to constitutional provisions, had about two-thirds of the voting power of the whole convention, and the other 28 or 29 delegates controlled the balance of one-third; all contrary to the constitutional enactments of 1907. Delegates opposed to the ring rules were unseated, and a delegate not elected by his Local simply transferred to another Local within two weeks' time and was seated as delegate, because he was a shouter for the ring.

Such a convention nominates the candidates for office. That means that in the last convention two individuals had it in their power to dictate who would go on the ballot or not. Progressive legislation was spurned, and the election of officers by referendum was to be established if the ring would have had its way. The rank and file, though, spoiled the effort.

A convention of the I.W.W. is the last place where a change of things could be expected. Only when the rank and file will get wise to the facts, will they, possibly by a referendum vote, eliminate all these features, and break the monstrous machine of officialdom that is plunging its fangs into the organization.

These lines are penned to you, to all workers, so that all may learn where you stand in this crisis. And it is a crisis.

Everywhere the lines of conflict are being drawn closer together. Opportunist Socialists are growing hot and furious in their contest against the invasion of industrial Socialists. And while in heated arguments one would think that there is added every day confusion more confounded, all these discussions and incriminations even tend to show that the baby of the revolutionary working class movement is struggling to relieve itself of its swaddling clothes. It is learning to stand on its feet, not feet of clay or hollow brass. The Socialist movement, which embraces all fields of working class expression, begins to clarify itself, in spite of all dire forebodings, and the proletariat is beginning to come to its own. The industrial revolutionary movement will be the strongest bulwark of the general labor movement, it must so be, and in spite of the debauchery of the movement by individuals the Industrial Workers of the World must be retained as the expression of working class solidarity on the industrial field. But this will in no way preclude that in other organizations the revolutionary thought will not be made the moving motive of all action and progress. But we are bound to go through these diseases to get into shape and form the creations needed for the emancipation of the toilers.

You, Haywood, are placed to-day in a position in the labor movement where no longer you can remain indifferent to the burning, paramount issues confronting the working class. You can make, you can unmake, although only for a short period will the unmaking affect the course of the labor movement. No one individual will construct, or destroy. But no longer can those who constructed the industrial union manifesto in 1903 look differently on how its tenets are being discarded, piecemeal; how its objects, as originally planned to bring about complete industrial and political solidarity of the working class, are distorted and destroyed.

The Magna Charta no longer is the guiding star in the activities, in the work, in the (non-existing) educational propaganda of the Industrial Workers of the World. More than passing notice has to be taken of the occurrences herein narrated, and only by quick and decisive action by the great mass of toilers interested in the advance of the revolutionary industrial union movement can a road be cleared for further progress, for real constructive work, for sound and solid education, for thorough preparation of the toilers for the impending historic task that they will have to perform, the operation of industries under a newly reconstructed social system.

The Damnable Curse of Juvenile Conscriptio.

In his letter to the "Herald" of 28th instant, giving copy of reply received from Lord Roberts to a former letter, the Reverend Dixon Hudson, C.E., Hurstville, shows himself to be a pro-conscriptio. He says he does not know of any serious opposition to training for national murder. He does not use, it is true, the expression "national murder." He does not know that the whole of us revolutionary Socialists, and all members of the Peace Society, Freedom League, Society of Friends, etc., are uncompromisingly and irreconcilably opposed to this vile curse—and we number many thousands. But he would know what we are aware of, if he moved amongst us, just as he would learn that there were no crushed saviours, and not merely one, if he studied Eastern religions. This military training business must go, and will be wiped out when we Socialists capture Parliament. And the fact that we nearly trebled our vote at the recent elections over the vote of three years ago gives us hope of our soon being able to destroy this legal abortion of the so-called Labor Party. Here are a few nuts for Mr. H. Hudson—some eye-openers for him—the working class have neither country nor property to defend; if they had compulsion to defend would be unnecessary. The workers of each country have no quarrel inter se. The capitalists, or robbing owners of property, and of wages-slaves, should fight their own battles. Mr. H. should know that all modern wars are engineered by capitalists anxious to grab new markets. The workers always find the rifle muzzles pointed to them when engaged in a needful strike, and they morally have a right to strike against their rapacious fleecers.

A conscript is morally guilty of murder if he shoots anyone by order of an official-murder-commander. In this connection I hold that arms should be turned on such officer, or that the volley be fired into the air or into mother earth, and I would rejoice at the general practice of sabotage in respect to all firearms, etc. the more so since defenceless children have been cowardly conscripted by political maggots. There is no identity of interest between capitalists and workers, hence the former (robbing class) should fight their own battles. Capitalists believe in loyalty, patriotism (the last refuge of scoundrels, Dr. Johnson); in anti-Christian religion; in national anthems, national flags, Empire days, wage-slavery, prostitution, gambling, etc., and they are pillars of the Church, which has ever been the curse of the workers. The workers (if true Socialists) are disloyalists to cant and humbug; are not nationalists, but internationalists; are anti-spurious religionists. They recognise only that glorious international anthem—the red flag song; are proud of the one universal scarlet flag—ever unsullied and unstained; substitute May Day for Empire Day, and are the only party out to win freedom and to establish a heaven (in the only place—here), and peace on earth and goodwill to all. Men like Roberts, in my opinion, should be gagged or interdicted from speaking, for it is necessary to beware of the dope or poison of the militarist. The militarists may be on top for awhile, but soon we of the party before whom thrones, temples and parliaments tremble will give to militarism and navalism its coup de grace. The military viper must be killed. Yours for the revolution and universal strike,

F. E. S. HEWISON.

Cleveland-road Hurstville.

If the Industrial Workers of the World have diverted from their original program it should so be known, so be advertised, so be denounced. And in laying the facts before you, in all their details, I know that thousands of toilers will ask with me, with others:

Haywood, will you help to stop the "bad business?"

Wm. E. Trautman.

HOW THE WAR AFFECTS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

We have received from a trade union official some notes on the present situation in Russia-Herzegovina. The young labour movement is passing through a difficult period, the state of affairs being greatly influenced by the war in neighbouring countries. The economic depression, which has been particular in the building trades, has become general. A great number of adult men have already been called to the colours, while the remainder suffer from increasing unemployment. All business and industry in the land has been checked. This would not be so bad perhaps if the movement for emancipation were not suppressed. The Association laws are ignored by the Government, and newly-formed groups are not recognised, though statutes giving freedom in such matters were consented to six years ago by the absolute rulers.

The party organ, "Glas Slobode," has been suppressed, and its editors heavily fined

A.S.P. News & Notes.

THE AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Principles and Policy.

1. Objective.

The Social ownership with Democratic control of the means of production, distribution, and exchange.

2. Statement of Principles.

The present form of Society rests on private ownership of the land and the machinery (tools) of production.

The owners of most of the land and machinery of production constitute what is economically known as the capitalist class. Hence the use of the term, "The capitalist form of society."

This form of ownership divides society in all countries into two distinct and opposing classes—the capitalist class and the working class.

The working class produces all the wealth that sustains society, while it is held in complete economic and industrial subjection to the capitalist class, which lives on the wealth produced by the working class.

To enable the working class to wage the class war, it must be fully conscious of the wrongs inflicted upon the workers by the capitalist class; and it must organise industrially to voice its wrongs and assert its claims. Then it will be prepared for political action to overthrow the usurping class and to abolish classes for ever.

The deaths by starvation, the millions of unemployed, the excessive toil for bare subsistence, the poverty, crime and consequent misery, are all the direct outcome of domination by the ruling class. That class must go.

The Australasian Socialist Party demands common ownership of all agencies of wealth production by the people themselves and the control of all industrial affairs on the basis of social equality.

The workers of Australasia must, without delay, take up their position along with the organised, class-conscious workers of all other countries. There is no escape from the thrall of capitalism short of its complete overthrow, and this can only be achieved by the class-conscious industrial and political organisation of the working class.

The Australasian Socialist Party, therefore, calls upon all workers to forthwith identify themselves with the existing A.S.P. Branches in their respective States, and to work unceasingly for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, and for the emancipation of their class from wage-slavery.

3. Guiding Rule.

The Australasian Socialist Party shall on all political and industrial legislation make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct: Will the proposal advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will, the Australasian Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Australasian Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

4. As to Palliatives.

Whereas the advocacy of political palliatives (so-called) tends to obscure the working class objective of emancipation from wage-slavery, and thus causes the workers to expend time and effort to little purpose; and

Whereas political palliatives (so-called) as adopted by legislatures have rarely proved efficacious, and have usually created the need for further legislative restrictions, and therefore kept working class action circular instead of straight; and

Whereas political palliatives even if desirable are best obtained by educating and organising for basic ends, inasmuch as some have ever been conceded when something more fundamental is the demand; be it

Resolved, that the Australasian Socialist Party declares against a programme of palliatives, and urges the workers to concentrate their energies upon abolishing capitalism by perfecting their industrial organisations and only using the ballot for Socialist propaganda.

5. As to Political Action.

No member of the A.S.P. shall stand as other than the candidate of the A.S.P., or support other than the candidate of a Revolutionary Socialist Party for Parliamentary or municipal office. A Revolutionary Socialist Party shall be any party which bases its propaganda on the recognition of the class struggle, and declares for the collective ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange, and has no programme of Palliatives.

No member or branch of the A.S.P. shall enter into any alliance temporary or permanent with any other than a Revolutionary Socialist Party. Socialist candidates shall be selected by the branches concerned, and where no branch exists by the Administrative Council, and before running be endorsed by the National Executive, to which the candidate shall pledge himself to advocate and support the principles and policy of the A.S.P.

Before entering upon a campaign a candidate shall hand to his Branch a written resignation to be read in the event of him swerving from the A.S.P. Policy.

and imprisoned. The movement is, therefore, being put to a test, the result of which cannot be guessed. Should it come to war the movement would doubtlessly be destroyed. The Internationalists are begged to take note of the position of things, and to lend a helping hand, particularly through the press, so that the Asiatic despotism of the ruler shall not render still more difficult the educational activities of the Labour Movement.

The absolute government of the country is at present in the hands of General Potiorek, who is supported by the Liberal Ministry of Bilinski in Vienna. This "Liberal" Ministry is even more reactionary and brutal than the absolute regime which held sway previously. In order to have a quite free hand the least cry of protest from the workers is smothered, so that Jingoism and Absolutism and the accompanying effects may celebrate their wonted orgies at the cost of the working population, the poor, who already, with the shadow of war cast over them, have been sentenced to need and misery.

A candidate must be a member of the A.S.P. and shall also have been for twelve months a member of the A.S.P. or another organisation affiliated with the International Socialist Bureau.

6. As to Unionism.

The A.S.P. aims and declares for Industrial Unionism as against craft or sectional unionism, for whereas the specialisation of the processes of production, the invention of machinery, and the concentration of ownership into fewer and fewer hands, makes craft unionism unable to cope with this economic development, and ever growing power of the employing class, because it is a relic of a lower stage in the evolution of capitalist production, i.e., the organisation of lower forms of tools, the A.S.P. therefore declares that today this organisation has outlived its usefulness, and has created crafts and sections amongst the working class in the same industry, and this contradiction in industrial development allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set in the same industry, and industry against industry, thereby defeating one another when waging war against the encroachments of the capitalist class, with their superior and higher developed organisations. And in view of this economic development the working class must organise in such a manner as will correspond to the development of the tools of production. This, then, makes it imperative that industrial organisation on right lines must be so constituted that all but technical distinctions between crafts and callings must be eliminated, and sectionalism abolished. The A.S.P. therefore affirms that industrial unionism is that form of organisation which is based upon the recognition of the class struggle, and through which all its members in one industry or in all industries, if necessary, can act as a unit, and adopt such methods by which the might and power of the working class can be best exercised and demonstrated.

The A.S.P. affirms its pronounced and mature conviction that Compulsory Abolition, Wages Boards, the New Protection, and the like, as manifested in slightly differing enactments, in the Australian States and New Zealand, have not been advantageous to the working class.

7. As to Compensation.

The Australasian Socialist Party vehemently protests against the working class being misled by the Labor or other parties into the belief that it is possible to socialize the instruments of production by a gigantic scheme of "buying out," or compensation to the possessing class, and warns the workers against endorsing such a utopian, immoral, and impracticable plan.

8. As to Militarism.

The A.S.P. declares itself uncompromisingly hostile to all forms of armaments and militarism, recognising that whilst the present class state exists the armed forces will be used to buttress up capitalism, and to hold down the workers. The A.S.P. further recognises that the energies of the working class can be better utilised in building up their industrial and political organisations, which shall finally render war impossible, as such organizations, by international affiliation and alliances between the working classes of all nations are at present the chief guarantee of the peace of the world.

9. As to Schools.

In declaring the need for Socialist Schools, the A.S.P. urges that same be established whenever and wherever the circumstances permit.

10. As to Historical Materialism.

The A.S.P. pledges itself to the materialistic interpretation of history, which asserts that the transition from one system of society to another, as in the past, from primitive communism to chattel slavery, from chattel slavery to feudalism, and from feudalism to the present Capitalist State, has been the result of new and improved methods of production, and the time has now arrived when the present scientific tools of production, by being socially owned, would make possible the establishment of the Socialist Republic.

11. As to Education.

The A.S.P. declares for and supports the principle of Secular Education in State Schools; and against subsidising denominational schools; and further holds that as religion is entirely a personal matter, and as State schools are composed of scholars of different religious beliefs the introduction of religious teaching can only result in fostering religious bigotry, and is a waste of valuable time.

SYDNEY.

Comrades, brothers, fellow-workers: Congratulations on the effect of your last week's work. Grand and inspiring is the knowledge of work well done.

Great and lasting must be the effects of such noble efforts expended with such goodwill and hearty comradeship as signalled the propaganda of emancipation during the past week.

A new fighter in the person of Comrade Marquet was welcomed to the firing line, and justifies hopes of future greatness; to Comrade Riley also was extended a hearty welcome on him taking his old place in the forefront of battle.

The large attendance of members at the half-yearly meeting of the branch shows the interest being taken by members in the welfare and progress of their branch. Election of officers took place, resulting in the promotion of Comrades Sims, White and Jones to the executive, whilst Comrade Roche takes charge of the treasury.

Friday and Saturday nights' meetings were carried to a successful issue by Comrades Sims, Slade, Roche, Whitmore, and Gordon, with Comrade Hilder as literature seller.

Many anxious glances were cast towards the heavy and overcast sky during Sunday morning, but our hearts were lightened in the afternoon by the appearance of a shining sun and clear blue sky, culminating in the pleasure experienced at having held a highly successful meeting, with a good collection and satisfactory sales of literature.

Comrade Jones, Riley and Roche held the lot in Market-street on Sunday evening, having a most earnest and attentive audience, who showed their appreciation by buying all the available copies of the "International Socialist." Comrades Sims, Slade, Marquet, and Hilder were respon-

sible for a good meeting in Park-street.

A feature of the coming month will be a lecture by Comrade Luke Jones, in room 4 Queen's Hall, Pitt-street, on Thursday, July 17th, at 8 sharp.

The next business meeting will be held at Queen's Hall, Thursday, July 19th. It is your duty to be there.

Don't forget the secretary's address, 113 Goulburn-street.

CECIL WHITMORE, Secretary.

MELBOURNE BRANCH A.S.P.

On Sunday, 22nd June, the writer was the speaker at branch headquarters (subject, Marxism and Darwinism). The attendance was not as good as anticipated owing to the heavy rain. The usual Yarra Bank meeting lapsed entirely, the rain being responsible.

H. Cook, an ex-S.L.P. member, who is at present assistant secretary to the Victorian Railwaymen's Union, was the speaker at our branch headquarters on Sunday, June 23rd, his subject being entitled "The Labor's Hopes," which, by the way, the lecturer made clear, were science and religion. The lecturer, to say the least, did credit to his subject, and we sincerely hope to hear him again in the near future. There was also some excellent discussion.

The economic class continues to be well attended, and all interested in the economics of labour are invited to attend same.

Saturday dances boast an increased attendance, but members are urged to induce their friends to attend same, and so help to bring them in contact with our branch.

On Sunday, July 20th, W. D. Huise lectures on "Workers' Waste" in the rooms. The following Sunday Dr. Bottomley will be the speaker, "Sex and Social Disorder" being his subject.

We are pleased to announce that Comrade W. Brudi is on the mend, and all comrades trust it will not be long until we see about and doing.

J. R. Wilson, Sec.

BRISBANE.

Arrived in Brisbane full of revolutionary ardor but lacking in fully lucid ideas. The Mayor didn't turn up to greet us, but he sent a deputy in the person of Chief of Police, who entertained us at the King George Hotel. Of course the authorities had to give an excuse for winning and during us, seeing that we were Socialists, and so it was stated that we were in good short euphemism for the King's hostility, for holding a public meeting on Sunday afternoon without a license. Licenses had been applied for, but the police after due deliberation, careful cogitation and expert examination of the evidence exercised their discretionary powers, and more in sorrow than anger refused the application. Thus it came to pass that Mandino, Gilligan (J.W.W.) and Jenkins, along with Quinlan and myself, daring to doubt the wisdom of the police, were escorted to the aforesaid hotel, interviewed by a magistrate, who urged us to stay for 12 hours. We stayed. Oh, the delight of it! Our apartments were so tastefully decorated—the one-color scheme, you know, and the meals, simple and nourishing. The Salvation Army were the caterers, and they deserve the highest praise. We dined à la gap—no tables or chairs, but taking our half-slice of nice white bread in one hand and a mug of tea in the other. I'm not quite sure whether it was tea or coffee. I did ask the Army man, and he said that he thought it was both in the other we squatted on our hindquarters and enjoyed our sumptuous repast. The conversation of the magistrate was illuminating. For half an hour he ably descended on the beauties of capitalism, and we left him almost convinced that by a thorough application to hard work we might eventually attain a "respectable" position in society. Yours almost respectable.

GORDON BROWN.

Socialist Headquarters, Stanley-street, Brisbane, June 28th.

The only working class paper is a Socialist paper. The "International Socialist" is admittedly one of the best. Why not subscribe for it? Why not push it?

DEATH OF R. LEECH.

We regret to have to announce the death of Robert Leech who passed away at the Austin Hospital, Melbourne, on June 21.

Comrade Leech suffered for two years from an incurable internal complaint in spite of which he fought the present system to the last. Our sympathies are with the bereaved.

NOMINATIONS.

Branches are requested to note that nominations for Officers will not close until Sat. July 19.—H.L. DENFORD.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged, £30 7s. 11d. M. Schaefer 3s. Club Social 3s. 3d. Total £30 10s. 4d.

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